



# **Communiqué**

**de l'Ambassade des Etats-Unis**

# **de presse**

**14-16 rue Rainitovo, Antsahavola, Antananarivo 101 – Madagascar - Tel.: 261 20 22 212 57**

**Friday, October 2008**

## **Peace Corps Madagascar 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration 1993-2008**

Peace Corps Madagascar will hold two official events this week to commemorate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary (1993-2008) of its programs in Madagascar. On October 29<sup>th</sup> there will be an official Opening Ceremony, Partner's Fair and Exposition of the projects and activities Peace Corps is engaged in from 11:00-16:30 at the Parc Zoologique Tsimbazaza. Additionally there will be an interactive multi-media exhibit at the American Cultural Center in Antanimena on October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. This free exhibit will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both days.

These exhibits will educate the public on the mission and activities of Peace Corps in Madagascar by portraying various Peace Corps activities conducted over the past 15 years. Photographs and videos will depict the four major volunteer programs in Madagascar: Education, Public Health, Environment and Agriculture and Small Enterprise Development, as well as the training program which all Volunteers undergo. Visitors will see demonstrations such as energy-efficient stoves and mobile audio-visual presentations that volunteers use at their sites, as well as training materials given to communities. Malagasy-speaking Peace Corps volunteers will be on hand during the exhibit to answer questions from visitors and the general public.

The Peace Corps is a U.S. Government agency established in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy. Since its creation, over 190,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in 139 countries worldwide. Currently, over 8,000 Volunteers are serving in 74 countries to promote world peace and understanding between peoples. The first Peace Corps Volunteers arrived in Madagascar in March 1993, and the program now includes 145 Volunteers and Trainees. To date 640 Volunteers have served in Madagascar.